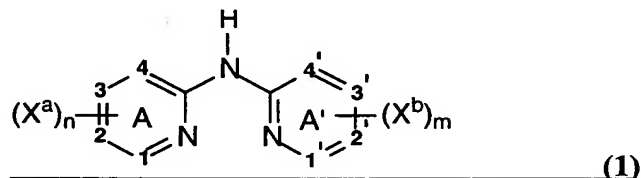


### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A process of forming a 2-2' bis(pyridyl azinyl)amine-BF<sub>2</sub> complex, where a boron atom is complexed by two ring nitrogens of a ~~deprotonated bis(azinyl)amine compound~~, comprising the step of reacting BF<sub>3</sub> with an ~~protonated bis(azinyl) amine~~ having Formula (1)



wherein:

A and A' represent independent azine ring systems corresponding to 6-membered aromatic ring systems containing at least one nitrogen;

each X<sup>a</sup> and X<sup>b</sup> is an independently selected substituent, two of which may join to form a fused ring to A or A';

m and n are independently 0 to 4; and

atoms 1, 2, 3, 4, 1', 2', 3', and 4' are carbon atoms;

in the presence of a polar aprotic organic solvent containing a nitrile group that is not reactive with the BF<sub>3</sub> under reaction conditions and has the Formula:



wherein

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> each independently represents hydrogen, fluorine, alkyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, dialkylamino, diarylamino, cyano, or nitro groups wherein at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> is not H; and

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> may join to form a cycloalkyl or an aryl ring group.

- 2.-4 (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein at least two of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are not H.
6. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> represent H and R<sub>3</sub> represents a methyl group.
7. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> represent H and R<sub>3</sub> represents an ethyl group.
8. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein at least two of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are H.
9. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the BF<sub>3</sub> source is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~ BF<sub>3</sub> gas, BF<sub>3</sub> solution in an organic solvent or BF<sub>3</sub> complex with organic solvent or compound.
10. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the BF<sub>3</sub> source is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~ BF<sub>3</sub> complexed with diethyl ether, dimethyl ether or tetrahydrofuran.
11. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein BF<sub>3</sub> is used in the amount 1-50 equivalents per mol of ~~protonated bis(aziryl)~~ the amine compound having Formula (1).
12. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 18 °C.
13. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 80 °C.
14. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 115 °C.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~15~~ where at least one X<sup>a</sup> or X<sup>b</sup> is present containing 4 or more carbon atoms.

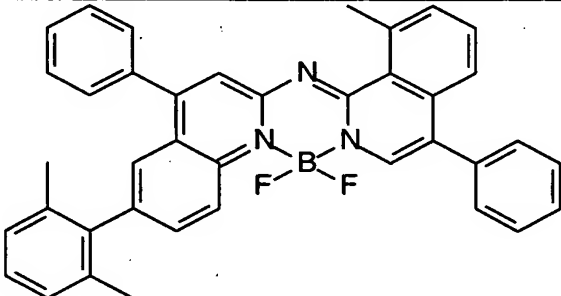
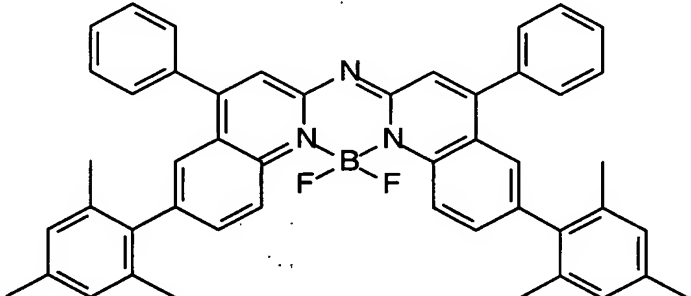
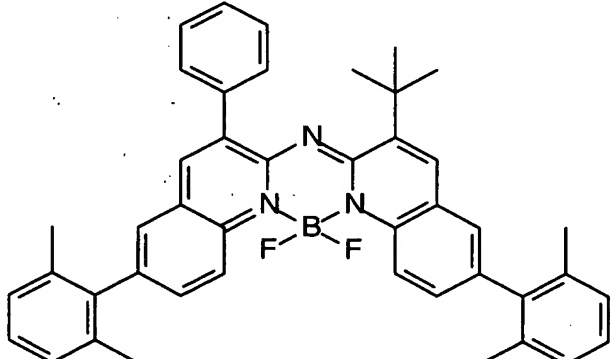
17. (Original) The process of claim 16 wherein the  $X^a$  or  $X^b$  group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and t-butyl groups.

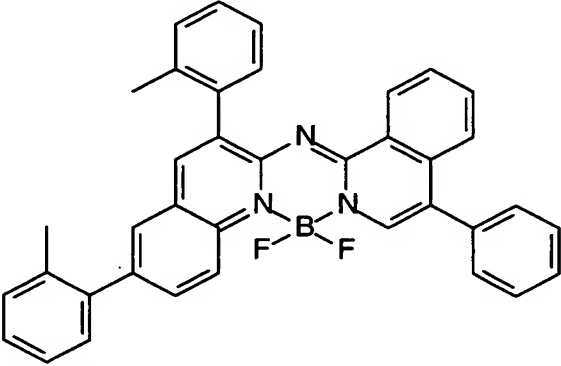
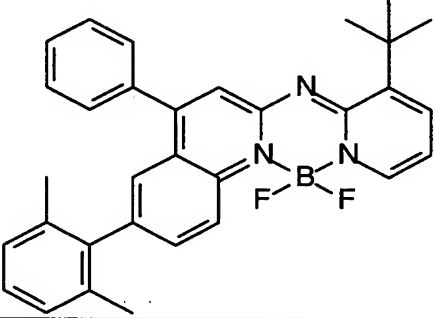
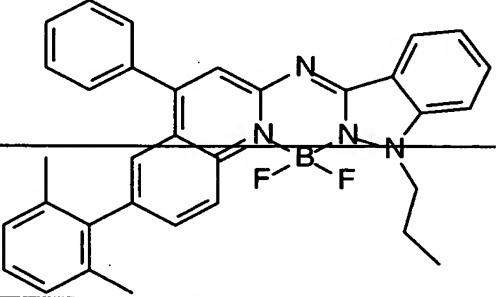
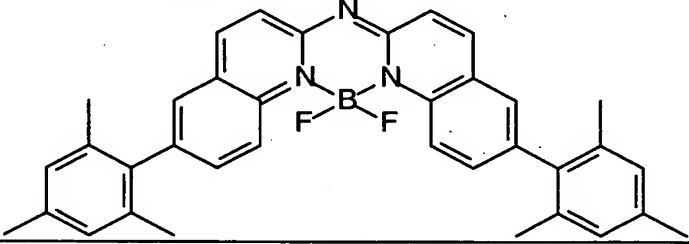
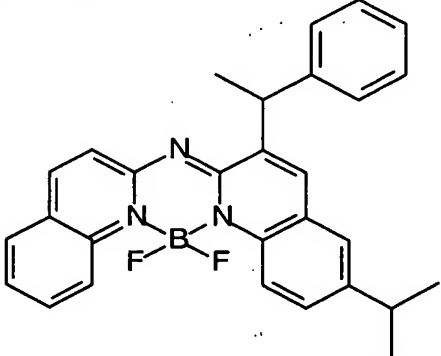
18. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the  $X^a$  or  $X^b$  group is a phenyl group.

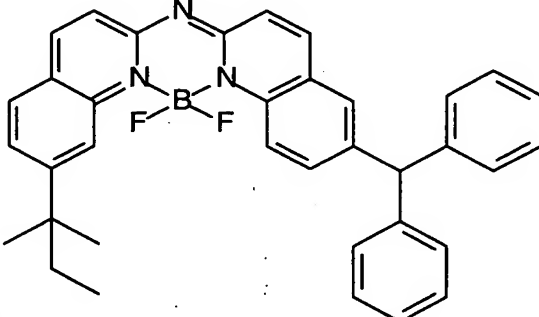
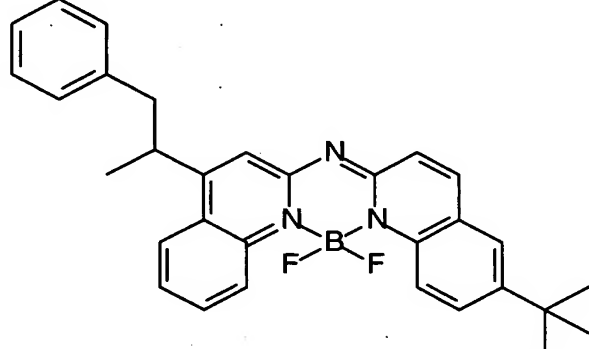
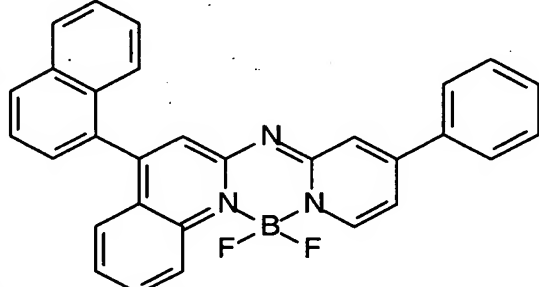
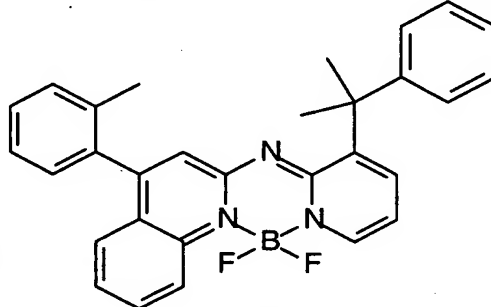
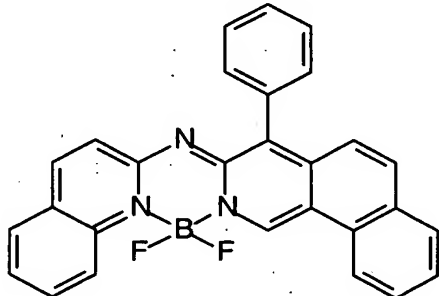
19. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the  $X^a$  or  $X^b$  group is a phenyl group containing at least one methyl group substituent.

20. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the  $X^a$  or  $X^b$  group is a mesityl group.

21. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the a bis(aziryl)amine-BF<sub>2</sub> complex is selected from the following:

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Inv-1 |   |
| Inv-2 |  |
| Inv-3 |  |

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Inv-4 |    |
| Inv-5 |    |
| Inv-6 |   |
| Inv-7 |  |
| Inv-8 |   |

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Inv-9  |              |
| Inv-10 |              |
| Inv-11 |             |
| Inv-12 |            |
| Inv-13 |  <p>and</p> |

Inv-14

